

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 3, 2013

AGENDA NO. 13

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the March 2013 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings, Business Assistance, and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Government.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

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Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for March 2013. The report includes four major areas: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings (including the Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services, Communications Center, and Public Information Center), Business Assistance and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Governments.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE

The following are key environmental justice-related activities in which staff participated during March 2013. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

- On March 7, staff attended the special meeting of the Los Angeles Harbor Commissioners in which public comments were heard on the Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) project. Significant comments were heard from the communities impacted by the SCIG project.
- On March 9, staff represented the SCAQMD at the Olive Circle Homeowner Association meeting in the Rancho Dominguez community of Compton. The residents expressed concerns regarding potential odors and dust from a local facility. Staff provided an overview on how to file air quality complaints and scheduled a follow-up with residents.
- On March 21, staff assisted with an AB 2588 Toxic Hotspots public meeting for Phillips 66 Refinery in Wilmington. Phillips 66 staff provided an overview on the toxic chemicals utilized at the facility, the potential health risks, and what is being done to reduce toxic emissions. SCAQMD staff was available to answer questions from meeting participants as well.
- On March 22, staff met with representatives from Los Angeles Councilman Jose Huizar's office to provide information on a health risk assessment from a lead acid-battery facility located in Vernon.
- On March 26, staff met with Monsignor Moretta of Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights to provide information on a health risk assessment from a lead acid-battery facility located in Vernon.
- On March 26, staff met with representatives from Assembly Speaker John Perez's office to provide information on a health risk assessment from a lead acid-battery facility located in Vernon.
- On March 26, staff met with representatives from the City of Commerce to provide information on a health risk assessment from a lead acid-battery facility located in Vernon.
- On March 26, staff met with representatives from Senator Kevin de León's office to provide information on a health risk assessment from a lead acid-battery facility located in Vernon.
- On March 27, staff met with representatives from the Los Angeles Unified School District to provide information on a health risk assessment from a lead acid-battery facility located in Vernon.

- On March 27, staff participated in the Wilmington Health Center Ribbon cutting ceremony and health fair. Staff provided information on air quality related issues and programs highlighting the air filtration projects at local schools funded by the TRAPAC settlement.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that SCAQMD sponsors either alone or in partnership with others. Attendees typically receive the following information:

- Tips on reducing their exposure to smog and its health effects.
- Clean air technologies and their deployment.
- Invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events.
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD rule and policy development.
- Assistance in resolving air quality-related problems.

The events that SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates include:

- March 2 3rd Annual Chino Youth Museum DairyAire 5K Run Event, Ayala Park, Chino
- March 2 Coachella Valley Wildflower Festival, Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitors Center, Palm Desert
- March 2 Sycamore Canyon Park Re-Opening Event, Claremont
- March 9 Los Angeles Environmental Education Fair, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia
- March 9 7th Annual Arrowhead Regional Medical Center 5K Walk-Run and Fitness Expo, Colton
- March 15 Corona State of the City & Small Business Expo, Crossroads Church, Corona
- March 16 Assembly Member Chris Holden Open House, Pasadena
- March 19 Baldwin Park High School College and Career Fair
- March 21 6th Annual Environmental Youth Conference, Western Riverside Council of Governments, Diamond Valley Lake Visitors Center, Hemet
- March 21-22 San Bernardino City-County Conference, Lake Arrowhead Resort
- March 22 Math and Science Day Event, Auto Club Speedway, Fontana

- March 27 Celebrate a Breath of Fresh Air Community Health Fair, Wilmington Health Center
- March 28 Western Riverside Council of Governments Energy Summit, Temecula Civic Center

On March 13 the SCAQMD held “A World We Can Change High School Conference and Expo” at the Long Beach Convention Center, that was attended by approximately 7,000 high school students and teachers from 110 schools from throughout the SCAQMD’s four county region.

SPEAKERS BUREAU/VISITOR SERVICES

SCAQMD regularly receives requests for staff to speak on air quality-related issues from a wide variety of organizations, such as: trade associations, chambers of commerce, community-based groups, schools, hospitals and health-based organizations. SCAQMD also hosts visitors from around the world who meet with staff on a wide range of air quality issues.

- On March 30, staff provided an overview presentation on SCAQMD, information regarding faith and the environment, and sustainable activities to make in the home and community, to an audience of over 100 people at the Temple Beth Am Jewish Congregation in Los Angeles.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG[®] line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of March 2013 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,689
1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	1,540
After Hours Calls*	335
Spanish Line Calls	<u>49</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	4,613

* Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and after 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month March 2013 is summarized below:

Visitor Transactions	244
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Calls Received by PIC Staff	28
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,357</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	<u>1,385</u>
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E-mail Advisories Sent	13,726

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

SCAQMD assists businesses by notifying them of proposed regulations so they can participate in the development of these rules. SCAQMD also works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Additionally, staff provides personalized assistance to small businesses both over the telephone and by on-site consultation. The information is summarized below.

- Provided permit application assistance to 203 companies
- Issued 31 clearance letters

Types of business assisted:

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ✓ Circuit board manufacturing | ✓ Equipment rental |
| ✓ Food distribution | ✓ Restaurants |
| ✓ Auto body shops | ✓ Metal thermal treating |
| ✓ Testing and research laboratories | ✓ Metal cutting and welding |
| ✓ Gas stations | ✓ Awning manufacturer |

OUTREACH TO BUSINESS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Field visits and communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following cities:

Alhambra	Cypress	La Quinta
Agoura Hills	Dana Point	La Verne
Aliso Viejo	Desert Hot Springs	Laguna Beach
Anaheim	Diamond Bar	Laguna Hills
Arcadia	Downey	Laguna Niguel
Artesia	Duarte	Laguna Woods
Avalon	Eastvale	Lake Elsinore
Azusa	El Monte	Lake Forest
Baldwin Park	El Segundo	Lakewood
Banning	Fontana	Lawndale
Beaumont	Fountain Valley	Loma Linda
Bell	Fullerton	Lomita
Bell Gardens	Garden Grove	Long Beach
Bellflower	Gardena	Los Alamitos
Beverly Hills	Glendale	Los Angeles
Big Bear Lake	Glendora	Lynwood
Bradbury	Grand Terrace	Malibu
Brea	Hawaiian Gardens	Manhattan Beach
Buena Park	Hawthorne	Maywood
Burbank	Hemet	Menifee
Calabasas	Hermosa Beach	Mission Viejo
Calimesa	Hidden Hills	Monrovia
Canyon Lake	Highland	Montclair
Carson	Huntington Beach	Montebello
Cathedral City	Huntington Park	Monterey Park
Cerritos	Indian Wells	Moreno Valley
Chino	Indio	Murrieta
Chino Hills	Industry	Newport Beach
Claremont	Inglewood	Norco
Coachella	Irvine	Norwalk
Colton	Irwindale	Ontario
Commerce	Jurupa Valley	Orange
Compton	La Cañada Flintridge	Palm Desert
Corona	La Habra	Palm Springs
Costa Mesa	La Habra Heights	Palos Verdes Estates
Covina	La Mirada	Paramount
Cudahy	La Palma	Pasadena
Culver City	La Puente	Perris

Pico Rivera	San Fernando	Temple City
Placentia	San Gabriel	Torrance
Pomona	San Jacinto	Tustin
Rancho Cucamonga	San Juan Capistrano	Upland
Rancho Mirage	San Marino	Vernon
Rancho Palos Verdes	Santa Ana	Villa Park
Rancho Santa Margarita	Santa Clarita	Walnut
Redlands	Santa Fe Springs	West Covina
Redondo Beach	Santa Monica	West Hollywood
Rialto	Seal Beach	Westlake Village
Riverside	Sierra Madre	Westminster
Rolling Hills	Signal Hill	Whittier
Rolling Hills Estates	South El Monte	Wildomar
Rosemead	South Gate	Yorba Linda
San Bernardino	South Pasadena	Yucaipa
San Clemente	Stanton	
San Dimas	Temecula	

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following state and federal offices:

- U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
- U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congressman Darrell Issa
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Mark Wyland
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Ken Jefferies
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following groups:

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
American Heart Association, Riverside
Corona Area Chamber of Commerce
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena

Encanto Court Senior Housing, Los Angeles
Five Mountain Communities Chamber of Commerce, San Bernardino
Hale Morris Lewis Manor Senior Housing, Los Angeles
Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Unified School District
League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division
Moreno Valley Government Affairs Council
Monrovia Wildefire Task Force
Orange County Business Council
Orange County City Managers Association
Redlands Chamber of Commerce
Riverside Community Hospital
Riverside County Health Coalition
Riverside County Department of Public Health
San Bernardino Association of Governments
San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
Southwest California Legislative Council
Upland Chamber of Commerce
Western Riverside Council of Governments
Western Riverside County Transportation Now